

TRANSMITTAL SLIP		DATE 10/31/86
TO: DDA		
ROOM NO. 7D24	BUILDING HQS	
REMARKS: EXA/DA _____ ADDA _____ DDA _____ ms/DA _____ cmj/DA _____ DDA/Reg. _____ Copies have been sent to all DA Office Heads. / FROM: D/CO		
ROOM NO.	BUILDING	EXTENSION

86-1854X

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(This Notice Expires 3 December 1986)

29 October 1986

25X1 OFFICE OF COMMUNICATIONS NOTICE NO. [REDACTED]

SUBJECT: State of the Office of Communications

1. As we begin a new fiscal year, it seems appropriate to reflect upon the accomplishments of the past year and assess the challenges we will be facing during the coming year. We can be justly proud of the dedication, initiative, and courage shown by our officers, but there will be plenty of challenges ahead as we enter the next fiscal year with a continued shortage of personnel and more limited funding than has been the case in recent years.

2. By way of accomplishments, we have, first of all, successfully operated and maintained a worldwide telecommunications network second to none. Each of you deserve the credit for this, our major accomplishment. We have been, are, and with our efforts, will continue to be the most secure and professional telecommunications organization in the United States Government. Our tradition of "first in, last out" and "never being without communications" continues. [REDACTED]

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[REDACTED]

3. At home, major progress was made on Project MERCURY with the activation of our test bed and the prospect of beginning deployment of hardware this year. When complete, the new switches and packet network will give us, for the first time, the capability of supporting extensive interactive terminal use and distributive processing in the field. While we can now do this on a

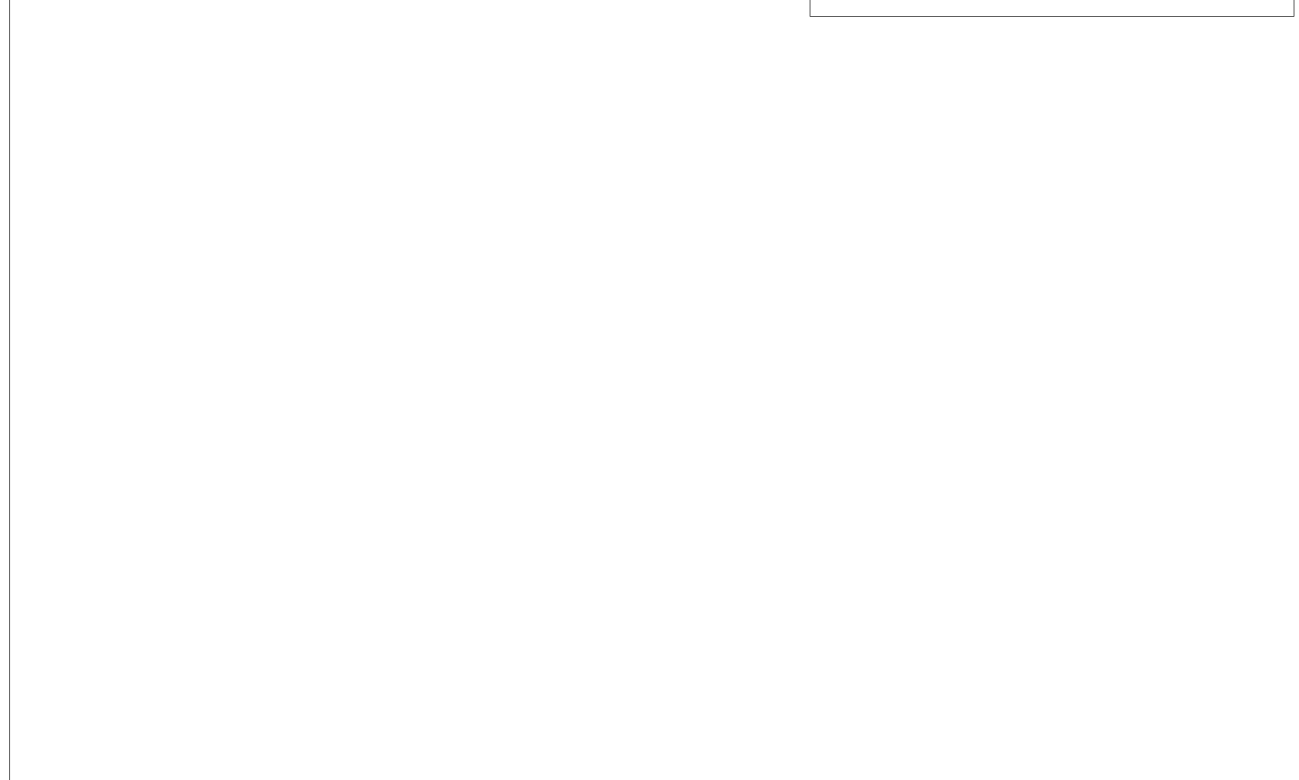
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selective basis, this will be the beginning of a new era in which such services can be routinely provided.



4. During the coming year, our primary objective has to be the recruitment of sufficient numbers of personnel to meet all of the opportunities available to us and the tasks with which we are faced. We will meet that objective, but until we have, we are counting on you to work the overtime and shifts associated with this situation. Your commitment has not gone unnoticed by senior management within the Agency. Also, while funding levels in the Office are not as high as we would like, they will permit the continuation of our major capitalization efforts including MERCURY. However, you should expect some slight slowdown in the rate at which our most expensive systems, SC-3s and PRS-6/7s, are fielded. Notwithstanding these concerns, I expect us to make equal or better progress on these endeavors during the coming year.

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5. There also exists unique opportunities for us as an Agency to better integrate our telecommunications and data processing activities. There is a continuity of the information process that extends from the human or scientific collector at one end, through the telecommunications and data processing networks, to the analyst and publisher at the other end. As MERCURY gives us the capability for the first time to make available extensive data processing capabilities in the field, all of us will be challenged as to how we develop, install, operate, and maintain these systems, and each of you will be an integral part of this evolving process. I think it adds new excitement to our traditional responsibilities and is something we will be hearing a lot more about.

6. I thank each of you for your contribution over the past year, and wish you professional success and personal satisfaction during FY1987.

Distribution: 3

